

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Applicant thanks the Examiner for the Office Action dated March 27, 2006. A Request for Continued Examination is filed herewith.

Claims Amendments

Claim 1 has been amended to specify that the visible information is superimposed with the coded data. Moreover, claim 1 now specifies that the printer is configured to print the coded data and the superimposed the visible information substantially simultaneously. Basis for this amendment can be found in claim 2 (now cancelled), page 9, lines 4-14 and Figure 1, which clearly shows graphic data 2 superimposed with a plurality of coded data tags 4 in a netpage 1. Further basis can be found at Sections 7.4.1 and 7.4.2 on pages 76 and 77 of the specification (see, especially, page 77, lines 19-27), which describe the generation of CMYK+IR dot data in the printer for simultaneously printed coded data tags superimposed with visible information.

In view of the Examiner's earlier comments in respect of the actuator in claim 1, this feature has been deleted from the claim.

The dependencies of claims 53 and 60 have been corrected.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

Claim 71 has been deleted, which addresses all outstanding rejections under 35 USC § 102.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The previous language used in claim 2 has been clarified and incorporated into claim 1. In other words, claim 1 is now explicitly clear that the printer is configured to print coded data and superimposed visible information. Sections 7.4.1 and 7.4.2 of the specification explain exactly how this can be achieved in one preferred embodiment.

In his most recent Office Action, the Examiner made reference to Figure 8 of Knowles, which shows a barcode and *adjacent* visible information. However, Knowles does not teach or suggest anywhere a printer configured to *superimpose* visible information and coded data.

Dymetman teaches overprinting visible information onto coded blank sheets (see column 11, line 46 *et seq* of Dymetman). However, as the Examiner admits, Dymetman fails to teach printing the coded data and visible information so that they are simultaneously superimposed.

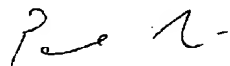
Tanaka (column 11, lines 49-59) merely teaches simultaneously printing onto opposite faces of a page. Tanaka does not teach printing by superimposition of visible information and coded data.

It is submitted that the combination of Knowles, Dymetman and Tabata would not lead the skilled person to arrive at the present invention. One cannot derive all the claim limitations of claim 1 by combining the teachings of these documents. Accordingly, it is submitted that the claim 1 is not obvious in view of Knowles, either taken alone or in combination with Dymetman and/or Tanaka.

It is respectfully submitted that all of the Examiner's objections have been successfully traversed. Accordingly, it is submitted that the application is now in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and allowance of the application is courteously solicited.

Very respectfully,

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